

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 06024 120810Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 DHA-02 EB-07 STR-04
COME-00 EPG-02 /093 W
-----130734Z 046710 /14

R 111634Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4283
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO UNN
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 6024

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, GE, GW, UR
SUBJ: ABRASIMOV ON WEST BERLIN AND RELATIONS WITH THE US AND FRG

1. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR PYOTR ABRASIMOV USED A SPEECH TO THE PRESIDUM OF THE EAST GERMAN CDU MAY 7 AS AN OCCASION TO MAKE STATEMENTS ON SOVIET RELATIONS WITH WEST BERLIN, SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS, US-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS.
2. WEST BERLIN - ABRASIMOV UNDERSCORED SOVIET AND GDR INTEREST IN DEVELOPING "GOOD NEIGHBORLY, NORMAL RELATIONS" WITH WEST BERLIN ALONG WITH SOVIET RESOLVE TO DO ALL NECESSARY TO CONVERT WEST BERLIN FROM A SOURCE OF TENSION INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE FACTOR IN EUROPEAN DETENTE. CITING THE "GUIDING PRINCIPLE" OF THE QA THAT WEST BERLIN DOES NOT BELONG TO THE FRG AND SHALL NOT BE GOVERNED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 06024 120810Z

IT, ABRASIMOV WARNED THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NEVER ACCEPT ATTEMPTS PARTICULARLY BY THE FRG, TO ALTER THE STATUS OF WEST BERLIN. ABRASIMOV EMPHASIZED THAT ALL SOVIET POLICY AND ACTIONS IN "WEST BERLIN AFFAIRS" WERE REALIZED IN CLOSEST COORDINATION AND WITH THE FULL AGREEMENT OF "OUR GERMAN FRIENDS". DEALING BRIEFLY WITH THE RECENT MAYORIAL CHANGE IN WEST BERLIN, ABRASIMOV

SAID THAT THE "NEW MAN" (STOBBE) WAS NOT SO LADEN DOWN WITH BURDENS FROM THE PAST. IF THE NEW MAYOR DEMONSTRATED A POSITIVE APPROACH TO DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE SOCIALISTS STATES, ABRASIMOV CONCLUDED, HE WOULD FIND COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF BOTH THE USSR AND THE GDR.

3. SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS - ABRASIMOV GAVE A POSITIVE ACCOUNT OF SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS, SAYING THAT THEY HAD BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY A "CONSTANT, NORMAL DEVELOPMENT." HE POINTED TO MARKED PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE FRG AND DEVELOPMENTS, ALBEIT LESS IMPRESSIVE, IN CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC/TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER AREAS. ABRASIMOV NOTED THAT REMNANTS OF EARLIER, LESS CONSTRUCTIVE FRG POLICIES STILL EXISTED, BUT PREDICTED WITH CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WOULD SOON MEET THE FATE OF THE PREVIOUS OVERALL POLICY THAT HAD OUTLIVED ITSELF.

4. US-SOVIET RELATIONS - IN CONTRAST TO HIS STATEMENTS ON THE FRG, ABRASIMOV WAS MORE CRITICAL OF THE US. HE LAMENTED THAT PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WAS BEING HINDERED BY POLITICAL PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY THE 1974 AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. TRADE ACT THAT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. ON SALT, ABRASIMOV REFERRED TO THE UNREALISTIC AND UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE US IN MARCH WHICH SOUGHT TO CREATE ONE-SIDED ADVANTAGES FOR THE US TO THE DETRIMENT OF SOVIET SECURITY. ABRASIMOV ALLEGED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD ALREADY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BERLIN 06024 120810Z

ADMITTED THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION HAD "MISCALCULATED" IN ITS INITIAL STEPS VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIET UNION AFTER A SHORT AND INTENSIVE WAVE OF CRITICISM OF THE U.S. POSITION.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS - NOTING THAT THE WEST HAD LONG ENGAGED IN HUMAN RIGHTS PROPAGANDA, ABRASIMOV CLAIMED THAT THE ONLY NEW ELEMENT WAS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S ATTEMPT TO MIX IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST STATES. ABRASIMOV THEN WENT ON THE OFFENSIVE, STRESSING THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WERE FULFILLED IN THE SOVIET UNION, ABOVE ALL THE RIGHT TO WORK, WHICH WAS NOT ASSURED UNDER THE US CONSTITUTION.

6. COMMENT: ABRASIMOV'S ONE-SIDED INTERPRETATION OF THE QA EMPHASIZING THAT WEST BERLIN SHALL NOT BE GOVERNED FROM THE FRG, IS PAR FOR THE COURSE FOR THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR. STRIKING IN HIS REMARKS IS THE EMPHASIS ON CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE GDR ON BERLIN, PERHAPS AN INDICATION OF FULL SOVIET SUPPORT FOR RECENT

GDR STEPS INTENDED TO SHOW THAT EAST BERLIN IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GDR. WE NOTE THAT IN CONTRAST TO HIS RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS, ABRASIMOV AVOIDED MENTIONING THE QUESTION OF ALLIED PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN. WHILE BOTH THE SOVIETS AND THE GDR OFTEN CRITICIZED FORMER WEST BERLIN MAYOR SCHUETZ AS A "COLD WARRIOR" FOR HIS STATEMENTS ON BERLIN, ABRASIMOV'S REMARKS AMOUNT TO AN EXPRESSED HOPE FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH STOBBE.

7. ABRASIMOV'S UPBEAT TONE ON THE FRG STANDS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO HIS CRITICISM OF THE US AND OF THE PRESIDENT BY NAME. HIS REMARKS INDICATE AN APPARENT SOVIET APPROACH OF TREADING LIGHTLY WITH THE FRG WHILE CRITICISING THE US ON SALT AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WEEKS BEFORE BELGRADE.POLANSKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SOVEREIGNTY, DETENTE, SPEECHES, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS, STATUS OF BERLIN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN06024
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770168-1085
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770572/aaaacjvk.tel
Line Count: 131
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 03f24497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2575676
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABRASIMOV ON WEST BERLIN AND RELATIONS WITH THE US AND FRG
TAGS: PFOR, GC, GE, UR, US, CSCE, (ABRASIMOV, PYOTR)
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/03f24497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009